(b) The reasons for low registration are primarily lack of awareness of the need and lack of motivation for registration among the people at large. Administrative weaknesses on the part of some State Governments are also reasons for low levels of registration in their states since the Chief Registrars of Births and Deaths and the State Governments are responsible for the implementation of the registration of births and deaths in the respective states. In India as per the latest available statistics for 1993, 50 percent of births and 46 percent of deaths were registered.

(c) Some major steps which have taken to improve the working of the system are:

(i) The Home Minister has written to the Chief Ministers of States which have low levels of registration. The Home Secretary has addressed the Chief Secretaries highlighting the need on the part of the State Governments to give special attention to this work.

(ii) The Registrar General, India held detailed review meeing of Chief Registrars and State Secretaries incharge of civil registration of all states and union territories.

(iii) Large scale publicity measures have been launched to create awareness among the general public about the importance of registration of births and deaths. The various media used are Radio, TV, postage stationery, cinema slides, documentary films, posters and stickers.

North-Eastersn State Boundary Disputes

784. SHRI W. ANGOU SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of boundary disputes of the North-Eastern Region;

(b) the measures to resolve the boundary disputes between the concerned States;

(c) whether Government are aware of the fact that some areas of Manipur have been encroached by Nagaland and T.B. Hospital of Nagaland has been constructed;

(d) if so, the steps contemplated as a prior measure not to raise the boundary dispute between Manipur and Nagaland; and

(e) whether Government have any intention to constitute a Boundary Commission for resolving the present disputes as a prior measure for the future?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) The main boundary disputes among the North Eastern States are viz.

Assam - Nagaland
Assam - Arunachal Pradesh
Assam - Mizoram
Assam - Meghalaya

(b) The matter has been discussed between concerned State Governments at official and political levels. There is need to continue the dialogue to arrive at a mutually acceptable mode of resolving the disputes. Central Government will provide necessary help to the States concerned in this regard.

(c) and (d) Information is being collected from the concerned State Governments and will be laid on the table of the House.

(e) A Boundary Commission would be set up by the Government of India if both the State Governments involved in the dispute agree to the setting of such a commission and further agree on the terms of reference and also that the award would be final and binding on both the States.

Loss of Lives and Property due to Ethnic Clashes in Manipur

785. SHRI W. ANGOU SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the loss of property and lives due to ethnic clashes in the North-East, especially in Manipur; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to construct the damaged houses and properties to enable return of normalcy?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Central Government has released a sum of Rs. 1825 lakhs for rehabilitation of persons affected by the Bodo-Santhal clashes in Assam. A sum of Rs. 73.95 lakhs has also been released for payment of ex-gratia to the victims of ethnic clashes in Manipur.